

**CHIN 0400: Intermediate Chinese II**  
**Spring 2024**  
**Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations**  
**University of Pennsylvania**  
(subject to change)

**Course Description:**

CHIN 0400 Intermediate Chinese II is the continuing course for students who have completed CHIN 0300 at Penn, as well as for those who had learned Chinese in high schools and been placed into the course through the Chinese placement exam. As an intermediate-level course, the emphasis is on building the foundation of speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. It is designed primarily for students planning to enroll in Intermediate Chinese courses at Penn. It also meets the needs of students with interests in the Chinese language and culture or planning to travel or study abroad in China soon. At the end of this course, students should reach the Intermediate-Mid level based on the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines. Students should have confidence talking with Chinese native speakers on familiar topics ranging from the college experience, daily life routines, behavior culture, and social etiquette.

This course also aims to introduce students to a changing China. From the rapid urbanization and globalization to the continuous development of transportation and infrastructure as well as cutting-edge business and industrial technology, China is experiencing an unprecedented transformation. Meanwhile, China is still rich in cultural heritage and has a long history. This course enables students to have a better understanding and analysis of contemporary Chinese society through learning its language and culture.

**Course Objectives:**

This course seeks to educate students to be global citizens, with the ability and sensitivity to communicate with people from diverse cultures. We aim to accomplish this goal through the study of the Chinese language, society, and culture.

**Culture Objectives**

- Broad cultural knowledge, understanding, and awareness of the nature of the culture(s) associated with the target language.
- Skills to recognize culture-specific perspectives and values embedded in language behavior.
- Flexibility and openness of mind in negotiating cultural differences.

**Language Objectives**

- The training necessary to speak, comprehend, read and write Mandarin Chinese at a level that would allow students to participate in basic everyday conversations and read and write simple texts such as short essays, letters, forms, etc.
- A basic understanding of the structure of Mandarin Chinese as compared to the English language.
- An awareness of the diverse populations and cultures in China where Mandarin and other Chinese dialects are spoken and of the sociolinguistic aspects of these languages.

**Textbook:**

Chou, Chih-p'ing, Joanne Chiang and Jianna Eagar. (2011) *A New China* 《新的中国》. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

**Instructors:**

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:30-11:30 AM

**Time & Location:**

| Section | Instructor     | Time               | Location |
|---------|----------------|--------------------|----------|
| 001     | Xiaomeng Zhang | M-R 8:30-9:30 AM   | TBD      |
| 002     | Xiaomeng Zhang | M-R 10:15-11:15 AM | TBD      |
| 003     | Xiaomeng Zhang | M-R 12:00-1:00 PM  | TBD      |
| 004     | Chih-jen Lee   | M-R 12:00-1:00 PM  | TBD      |
| 005     | Chih-jen Lee   | M-R 1:45-2:45 PM   | TBD      |

## **Course Requirements:**

### **Class Attendance (5%)**

Class attendance is ESSENTIAL and an integral part of the course design. You are permitted five (5) absences **for any reason**, after which **each additional absence will result in a 1 point deduction from your FINAL GRADE**. Any significant tardiness or early departure from class will be counted as a half absence.

### **Class Performance, Preparation & Participation (5%)**

You should familiarize yourself with the vocabulary, listen to the audio files, and read the text notes and sample sentences as part of your daily preparation activities. You are expected to prepare for and actively participate in all class activities. Please note that a grade of 8 (out of 10) is satisfactory preparation and participation. Grades lower than an 8 are for students who demonstrate unsatisfactory preparation and participation and grades higher than a 9 are reserved for students who demonstrate exemplary preparation and participation.

### **Oral Tests (10%)**

There will be two oral tests on topics that will be covered this semester. Instructions will be available two weeks prior to the test dates.

### **Homework (14%)**

Homework assignments must be turned in on the due day according to the weekly schedule. All homework will be graded on a 10-point scale. Late homework will receive a 1-point penalty per day. Late homework will not be accepted and graded if submitted after **three days** past the due day (not including holidays and weekends).

### **Quizzes (18%) and Tests (12%)**

Quizzes and tests are given on a regular basis. **One** of the lowest vocabulary quizzes and **one** of the lowest review quizzes will be automatically dropped. Tests are given after each two or three lessons. There will be a review session before each test. None of the tests will be dropped. If you miss any quizzes, those will be counted as the dropped ones automatically. **There are no make-ups allowed for preview and review quizzes.** You are allowed ONE make-up for the test. If you arrange the make-up test with your instructor prior to the test date, there will be no penalty. Otherwise, a 10% deduction will be applied without prior arrangement. All make-ups have to be completed within a week of the original date of the test.

### **Movie Essay (5%)**

There will be a movie screening and accompanying writing assignment this semester. Details of this assignment will be announced later in class.

### **Individual Tutorials (5%)**

Individual tutorials (IT) are offered on certain weeks. Each tutorial session is 10 minutes, and it is a good opportunity for students to have extra speaking practice with a native speaker. You have to sign up for your own time slot and will keep the same slot for the rest of the semester. You are expected to go to your sessions on time. **No make-ups or rescheduling is allowed.** You are required to complete only **five** tutorial sessions. If completing more than five, for the extra sessions, you will receive up to 0.5 points manually added to your final grades for **each** completed session. **This will be the only way to earn extra credits in this course.**

### **Midterm & Final Projects (16%)**

There will be a midterm and a final project this semester. Details of these projects will be announced later in class.

### **Final Exam (10%)**

This exam will cover all the materials taught during this semester. **No make-ups will be allowed for the final exam without prior approval.**

### **Extra Credits (2%)**

There are two ways to earn extra credits for this course. (1) If completing more than five IT sessions, for the extra sessions (up to 2 extra sessions), you will receive up to 0.5 point manually added to your final grades for **each** completed session. (2) For all CHIN-0400 sections, the class on Thursday, February 29 is canceled. Students are encouraged to attend the Mental Health Lecture hosted by the Chinese Language Program. Students can submit a reflection (in Chinese, at least 250 characters) to their instructor to earn up to 1 point extra credits added to their final grade.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Students must follow the principles of the University's Code Of Academic Integrity.

Violations include, but are not limited to:

- Plagiarism: Using another person's published ideas, data, or language without specific and proper acknowledgment.
- Use of another person's work: Submitting a paper that someone else prepared, either in part or whole, or preparing all or part of a paper of other written assignment for other students.
- Cheating/Copying during an examination: Copying from another student's paper, consulting unauthorized material, giving information to another student, or colluding with one or more students during an examination.
- Prior possession of an examination: Acquiring or possessing an examination before it is given, unless the instructor grants permission.

**Class Rules:** (Violating the class rules may affect your class participation grades.)

1. Please refrain from doing homework in class, including your Chinese homework.
2. No activities unrelated to the class should be undertaken. During class, please **do not** use your laptop or cell phone to do things that are unrelated to the class.
3. If you miss a class, it is **your own** responsibility to find out what material was covered during your absence. Being absent is **NOT** an excuse for handing in homework late. You should still submit your homework on the due day even if you do not attend the class.

## **Grading:**

Your grades in this course will be decided by the following categories of performance:

1. Homework: 14%
2. Vocabulary Quizzes (drop 1): 6%
3. Review Quizzes (drop 1): 12%
4. Tests: 12%
5. Midterm Project: 6%
6. Movie Essay: 5%
7. Oral Tests: 10%
8. Individual Tutorial (drop 2): 5%
9. Class Attendance: 5%
10. Class Preparation & Participation: 5%
11. Final Project: 10%
12. Final Exam: 10%

A: 94-100, A-: 90-94, B+: 87-90, B: 83-87, B-: 80-83,  
C+: 77-80, C: 73-77, C-: 70-73, D+: 65-70, D: 60-65, F: Less than 60

### CHIN 0400 Course Schedule (Spring 2024)

| Sunday | Monday                          | Tuesday                          | Wednesday                               | Thursday                           | Friday           | Saturday |
|--------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|------------------|----------|
| 1/14   | 15<br>MLK Day                   | 16                               | 17                                      | 18<br>Introduction                 | 19               | 20       |
| 21     | 22<br>11-1 VQ                   | 23<br>11-2                       | 24<br>11-3                              | 25<br>11-4                         | 26               | 27       |
| 28     | 29<br>11-5 RQ HD                | 30<br>13-1 VQ                    | 31<br>13-2                              | 2/1<br>13-3                        | 2<br>IT 1 (L11)  | 3        |
| 4      | 5<br>13-4                       | 6<br>13-5 RQ HD                  | 7<br>14-1 VQ                            | 8<br>14-2                          | 9<br>IT 2 (L13)  | 10       |
| 11     | 12<br>14-3                      | 13<br>14-4                       | 14<br>14-5 RQ HD                        | 15<br>11, 13-14<br>Review          | 16<br>IT 3 (L14) | 17       |
| 18     | 19<br>11, 13-14<br>Test         | 20<br>18-1 VQ                    | 21<br>18-2                              | 22<br>18-3                         | 23<br>IT 4 (L18) | 24       |
| 25     | 26<br>18-4                      | 27<br>18-5 RQ HD                 | 28<br>Midterm<br>Project<br>Preparation | 29<br>Mental<br>Health Day         | 3/1              | 2        |
| 3      | 4<br>SPRING                     | 5                                | 6                                       | 7                                  | 8<br>BREAK       | 9        |
| 10     | 11<br>Midterm<br>Project        | 12<br>Midterm<br>Project         | 13<br>Oral Test I                       | 14<br>Oral Test I                  | 15               | 16       |
| 17     | 18<br>19-1 VQ                   | 19<br>19-2                       | 20<br>19-3                              | 21<br>19-4                         | 22<br>IT 5 (L19) | 23       |
| 24     | 25<br>19-5 RQ HD                | 26<br>18-19 Review<br>IT 5 (L19) | 27<br>18-19 Test                        | 28<br>Movie<br>Screening           | 29               | 30       |
| 31     | 4/1<br>Movie<br>Screening       | 2<br>Movie<br>Screening          | 3<br>Movie<br>Discussion                | 4<br>20-1 VQ                       | 5                | 6        |
| 7      | 8<br>20-2                       | 9<br>20-3                        | 10<br>20-4                              | 11<br>20-5 RQ HD                   | 12<br>IT 6 (L20) | 13       |
| 14     | 15<br>21-1 VQ                   | 16<br>21-2                       | 17<br>21-3<br>IT 7 (L21)                | 18<br>21-4<br>IT 7 (L21)           | 19<br>IT 7 (L21) | 20       |
| 21     | 22<br>21-5 RQ HD                | 23<br>Oral Test II               | 24<br>Oral Test II                      | 25<br>Final Project<br>Preparation | 26               | 27       |
| 28     | 29<br>Final Project<br>Showcase | 30<br>Final Project<br>Showcase  | 5/1<br>Final Exam<br>Review             | 2                                  | 3                | 4        |

PQ = Preview Quiz; RQ = Review Quiz; HD = Homework Due; IT = Individual Tutorial